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SUBJECT: EA/VLC STATUS REPORT NO. 4

1. HUMPHREY-HUNG PRETRIAL ACTIVITIES (CONF)

LIAISON WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND LEGAL ADVISOR'S OFFICE ON TRIAL PREPARATIONS HAS ABSORBED THE MAJORITY OF VLC'S TIME OVER THE PAST MONTH. BOB OAKLEY AND FRED BROWN (WITH L) HAVE COMPLETED BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 17 FOREIGN EMBASSIES ON THE EVIDENTIARY DOCUMENTS AND TRIAL PROCEDURES. THE BRIEFINGS HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED AND SHOULD HELP CUSHION ADVERSE REACTION BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WHEN OUR CABLES BECOME PUBLIC. HOWEVER, SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALREADY VOICED CONCERN OVER POTENTIAL

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DAMAGE TO THEIR FOREIGN RELATIONS AND EMBARRASSMENT TO SOURCES. WE CONTINUE TO EXPLAIN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DOCUMENTS TO PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS, THE PROSECUTION BEGINS DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH ITS FIRST POTENTIAL WITNESS (KEN QUINN) MARCH 9. THE TRIAL IS STILL SET FOR APRIL 3.

2. SRV DELEGATION COMING TO UN (CONF)

A FOUR-MEMBER VIETNAMESE DELEGATION HEADED BY MFA VICE

MINISTER VO DONG GIANG WILL ARRIVE IN NEW YORK LATER THIS WEEK TO SPEND ONE MONTH AT THE UN. THIS MARKS THE FIRST ARRIVAL OF A SIGNIFICANT SRV GROUP SINCE AMBASSADOR DINH BA THI'S DEPARTURE FEBRUARY 10. THE DELEGATION'S ANNOUNCED PURPOSE IS TO PARTICIPATE IN UNDP CONSULTATIONS. HOWEVER, THE INCLUSION OF MADAME PHAN THI MINH AS THE DELEGATION'S SECOND-RANKING MEMBER INDICATES THE GROUP MAY ALSO LOBBY IN FAVOR OF THE VIETNAMESE FEBRUARY 5 THREE POINT PROPOSAL FOR SETTLING THE SRV-CAMBODIAN BOUNDARY CONFLICT. WE HAVE REPORTS SUGGESTING MINH AND GIANG MAY CONVEY AN INVITATION FROM PHAM VAN DONG TO WALDHEIM THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL SEND A MISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE BORDER AREA SITUATION.

3. VIETNAM COURTS MEDIA ATTENTION (CONF)

THE SRV'S DESIRE TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON THEIR 3-POINT PEACE PLAN MAY BE ONE REASON FOR A SUDDEN WILLINGNESS TO ADMIT AMERICAN NEWSMEN. NBC TELEVISION IS NOW FILMING IN VIETNAM, AND CBS TELEVISION (BRUCE MORTON) HAS BEEN INVITED TO BEGIN A ONE MONTH TOUR MARCH 25. A VISIT TO THE BORDER AREA HAS BEEN SCHEDULED. A FREE-LANCE PBS FILM-MAKER HAS BEEN TOLD THAT HIS ONE MONTH VISIT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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WELCOME IN APRIL. ALSO, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE'S CORRESPONDENT HAS BEEN ALLOWED IN RECENT DAYS TO FILE REPORTS FROM THE TAY NINH "BATTLEFIELD."

4. PEKING RESPONDS TO HANOI ON BORDER CONFLICT (LOU)

IN RESPONSE TO HANOI'S RECENT IMPLICIT CRITICISM OF THE PRC AS "REACTIONARIES AND IMPERIALISTS" ASSISTING PHNOM PENH, PEKING HAS PUBLISHED EXCERPTS FROM CHAIRMAN HUA'S REPORT TO THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WARNING THAT "NO COUNTRY SHOULD SEEK HEGEMONY IN ANY REGION OR IMPOSE ITS WILL ON OTHERS." THE EXCERPTS (RELEASED MARCH 6) ALSO JUSTIFIED PRC POLICY TOWARD THE BORDER CONFLICT IN TERMS OF SUPPORTING "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO OPPOSE FOREIGN AGGRESSION." WITH THE SOVIET UNION-VIETNAM RELATIONSHIP POSSIBLY IN MIND, HUA ALSO NOTED THAT CHINA'S AIM IN PROVIDING AID IS TO "HELP RECIPIENT COUNTRIES TO BE SELF-RELIANT AND NOT AT MAKING THEM DEPENDENT ON THE AID-GIVING COUNTRY."

5. CONGRESSMAN CLARENCE YOUNG ON INDIAN-SRV "NUCLEAR COOPERATION" (LOU)

YOUNG'S OFFICE CALLED VLC MARCH 7 TO CONFIRM THAT INDIA HAD AGREED, DURING PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG'S VISIT,

TO PROVIDE VIETNAM WITH NUCLEAR ASSISTANCE. DRAWING ON NEW DELHI 3468, WE REPLIED THAT REPORTS ON INDIAN-SRV NUCLEAR COOPERATION ARE MISLEADING. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT NUCLEAR COOPERATION WOULD BE CONFINED TO TRAINING SRV SCIENTISTS AT INDIA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTERS WHERE MANY FOREIGN STUDENTS ARE ALREADY STUDYING. FURTHER, IT APPEARS THAT INDIA HAS NO INTENTION OF TRANSFERRING MATERIALS OR TECHNOLOGY EVEN FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES UNTIL RELIABLE INTERNATIONAL NORMS ARE ESTABLISHED. THE INDIAN DESK HAS PREPARED PRESS GUIDANCE ON THIS ISSUE.
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6. AVIATION DEVELOPMENTS (LOU)

PANAM REPRESENTATIVES ARE MEETING WITH SRV CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES IN VIENTIANE ON MARCH 8 AND WITH LAO OFFICIALS MARCH 9. PANAM WAS INVITED TO VIENTIANE BY THE SRV TO DISCUSS THE TERMS UNDER WHICH PANAM AND OTHER U.S. CARRIERS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO OVERFLY VIETNAM AND LAOS. IF DISCUSSIONS ARE POSITIVE, WE EXPECT PANAM TO APPROACH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR PERMISSION TO PAY OVERFLIGHT FEES TO THE SRV AS AN EXCEPTION TO EXISTING U.S. TRADE RESTRICTIONS.

A BOEING AIRCRAFT REPRESENTATIVE WILL GO TO HANOI TO DISCUSS WITH SRV AVIATION OFFICIALS ON MARCH 22 THE POSSIBILITY OF SELLING AIRCRAFT TO VIETNAM AFTER TRADE RESTRICTIONS AGAINST THE SRV ARE LIFTED. THE VIETNAMESE INVITATION WAS ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO AN INITIATIVE BY BOEING.

7. MENNONITES PAY CALL (CONF)

MEMBERS OF THE MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE HIEBERTS, MENNONITE REPRESENTATIVES RECENTLY RETURNED FROM LAOS, CALLED ON EA/VLC AND S/P MARCH 7 TO DISCUSS LETTERS WRITTEN TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DEFENSE ABOUT POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THE LAO IN EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL. WE REVIEWED FOR THEM LEGAL AND PRACTICAL RESTRICTIONS WHICH MAKE USG ASSISTANCE IN THIS FIELD VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE NOW. THE MENNONITES INDICATED THAT THEY WILL BE RESEARCHING THE ISSUE FURTHER WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING PRIVATE AID TO LAOS (E.G. TRACTORS WITH SHIELDS OR OTHER SIMPLE EQUIPMENT). ON THE FOOD SITUATION, THE HIEBERTS STATED THAT BEFORE THEY LEFT VIENTIANE IN FEBRUARY THEY
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HAD HEARD FROM UN SOURCES THAT PEOPLE IN THE MOST-AFFECTED PROVINCES IN SOUTHERN LAOS WERE ALREADY REDUCED TO A RATION OF ONE SMALL BOWL OF RICE A DAY. THE MENNONITES PLAN TO SEND 80 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS TO SOUTHERN LAOS FOR A FOOD-FOR-WORK PROJECT.

8. PL-480 FOOD AID TO LAOS (CONF)

A REVISED ACTION MEMORANDUM WENT TO THE SECRETARY MARCH 4. MEANWHILE ON THE HILL, DURING THE PAST WEEK SENATOR KENNEDY AND CONGRESSMEN BIELENSON HAVE ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENTS URGING THAT THE ADMINISTRATION RESPOND TO THE LAO REQUEST FOR FOOD AID. ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE, CONGRESSMAN YOUNG HAS ATTACKED ANY FORM OF INDIRECT AID TO LAOS BECAUSE OF LAOS' HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD.

9. DDT TO CAMBODIA (LOU)

THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, ON STATE'S RECOMMENDATION, HAS ISSUED A LICENSE TO A U.S. CHEMICAL COMPANY TO SHIP \$1.1 MILLION WORTH OF DDT TO CAMBODIA. THIS WAS THE FOURTH SUCH LICENSE ISSUED, BRINGING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF DDT LICENSED FOR SALE TO CAMBODIA SINCE 1975 TO 1550 TONS WORTH \$2.7 MILLION. OUR APPROVAL WAS BASED ON THE HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATION OF AN URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEED TO COMBAT WIDESPREAD MALARIA. STATE'S RECOMMENDATION INCLUDED MENTION OF THE NEED FOR AN OVERALL EXECUTIVE BRANCH POLICY ON THE EXPORT OF COMMODITIES SUCH AS DDT WHICH ARE BANNED IN THE U.S. ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GROUNDS.

10. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON CAMBODIA MARCH 8 (LOU)

WE HAVE AN INITIAL REPORT ON THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION RESOLUTION IN OPEN SESSION ON THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA. ALTHOUGH THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED WAS Milder THAN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE ONE THE BRITISH DELEGATION HAD ORIGINALLY TABLED, OUR DELEGATION JUDGES THAT IT WAS ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED FOR THE COMMISSION TO ADOPT A PUBLIC RESOLUTION ON ANY MEMBER COUNTRY EXCEPT THE THREE TRADITIONAL SCAPEGOATS--ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA AND CHILE. THE RESOLUTION ON CAMBODIA REPORTEDLY REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO TRANSMIT TO CAMBODIA ALL THE DOCUMENTS FROM THE CURRENT SESSION, IN-

CLUDING SPEECHES ABOUT CAMBODIA, AND TO REQUEST THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT TO SEND THEIR COMMENTS AND VIEWS TO THE COMMISSION. THE NON-ALIGNED WERE SAID TO HAVE SPLIT OVER THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION.

11. CORNELL HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM (UNC)

ON MARCH 10-11 FRED BROWN WILL PARTICIPATE IN A CORNELL UNIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM ON "US POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THAILAND, THE PHILIPPINES, VIETNAM AND LAOS." DON LUCE WILL PRESENT THE OTHER POINT OF VIEW. VANCE

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